

The Philadelphia Convention.

It would seem that nothing will satisfy the malcontent secession papers of the South but the unconditional submission of the Northern people to such demands as they may make upon them. These papers are vexed with the proceedings of the Philadelphia Convention. They barely tolerate that body, though it was given out when it was called, that it was to be a body against the radicals, and therefore in their favor. They will take nothing less than a recognition of the righteousness of the rebellion, and a tender respect for the exploded theory of State rights, until such time as they can gain sufficient strength to reassert those rights, whether in the council chamber or on the field of battle. The Richmond *Enquirer*, for example, still maintains the doctrine of secession, and prides itself upon the fact that it sees nothing to regret in the rebellious action of the Southern States; and the last Charlotte *Times* has the following in relation to the principles put forth by the Philadelphia Convention:

"President Johnson seems pleased with the proceedings. The meeting will undoubtedly strengthen him, and may result in his appointment as President of the United States. It will be more regarded of the Constitution and the indisputable rights of the States. But will even that great boon compensate for the humiliation of having to appear in the grandest and most magnificent assembly of the South, and to be degraded by the presence of a man who has been so long a traitor, and who has been so long a slave of the South?"

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Who went to Philadelphia from this State, and silently subscribed to these dogmas? Not the despised "straitest sect" Unionists, but such war men as Howard, Graham, Manly, and Barringer. We know of no "straitest sect" man who proposes to cast odium on the "noble Southern dead." We know of no Northern Union man who proposes to do it. We look upon the leaders in the rebellion, so-called, as criminals; we mean such men as Davis, Slidell, Rhett, Wigfall, Phelan, Toombs, Pryor, Clark, Barksdale and Benjamin—for they knew better, and sinned with their eyes wide open; but those who fought on the Southern side were either misguided or conscripted, and but for their valor and endurance, which saved the honor of the South, every thing would have been lost. We have no harsh epithets for these men. The Northern people have no harsh epithets for them. They were rebels, and so was George Washington until he got to be a successful revolutionist. But we do not call them rebels by way of reflecting on them, and we call no man traitor, except in self-defense, when we are denounced as a traitor to the so-called Confederacy. It might be expected that a "radical" Convention would speak of Southern soldiers as rebels, and of those public men who led in the rebellion as traitors; but we agree with the *Times* that it is a strange thing to see Messrs. Graham, Barringer, Howard, and Manly taking this view and speaking thus, in an Address and in a Platform of Principles, which were maturely weighed and considered before they were sent forth to the country.

The Drouth.

We have distressing accounts of the drouth from various parts of the State. A friend writing from Carthage, Moore County, says:

"Times hard, and money scarce. The corn is nearly done for, the drouth being very fatal. I fear we shall not make a support in this section."

We have similar reports from Orange, portions of Granville, Chatham, Wake, and other localities. We learn that the corn crops will be short on the Roanoke and in the Albemarle country. We have not heard from the Wayne and Lenoir region. We are glad, however, to state that the corn crops are said to be excellent on the Yadkin and Catawba. Our friends will oblige us by furnishing information in relation to the crops.

The present prospect is that the ensuing year will be one of scarcity. Many of the poor must suffer without help from abroad.

The Philadelphia Address.

We must postpone comment. Sufficient for to-day to say that the Address is a masterpiece of our earnest endorsement and approbation.

Sentinel.

This being the case, why does not the *Sentinel* urge Gov. Graham, Mr. Turner, Mr. Clark, and other members elect to Congress who cannot take the oath, to resign, so that members can be elected who will be received by Congress? The Philadelphia Address calls for "loyal" representatives, and the President has emphatically declared, time and again, that the members of Congress from the Southern States must be persons who can "comply with any existing constitutional or legal test."

But the *Sentinel* and those for whom it speaks, have no idea of carrying out even the President's plan. They are at heart the worst enemies the President has, and if he should lean upon them they will pierce him through with many sorrows. Their great effort is to perpetuate confusion and disorder, in the hope that a bloody conflict will take place among the Northern people. Such a conflict would at least gratify their vengeance, if it did not give them an opportunity to make good their independence.

Union Meetings.

We publish to-day the proceedings of a Union meeting held in the County of Surry. The resolutions are ably drawn, and breathe a loyal spirit. The friend who sends us the proceedings of this meeting urges the holding of Union meetings generally throughout the State, in which we concur. Other friends have written us suggesting a State Convention of the Union men, to be held some time next month. If the Unionists of the State desire to hold a Convention, let some of the meetings at once suggest the day. No time is to be lost. We have no authority to name the day.

The Surry meeting, like those held in Henderson and Washington Counties, has endorsed the proposed Constitutional amendment. We have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that the true Union men of this State are, as a general thing, in favor of this amendment. Gov. Worth and his faction are opposed to it. Let the people all over the State keep an eye upon those who assail and denounce this amendment, so that Congress may know, at the proper time, who ought to be, and who ought not to be, lifted of the disability, in case the amendment should be adopted. We know there are some Union men who are opposed to it, because they apprehend it will enable some unrepentant secessionists, who have never taken an oath to support the federal Constitution, to hold office; but as these persons are moved solely by what may be called excessive Unionism, there will be no barrier to relieving them of the disability.

The Union men of this State hold now, as they did in May, 1865, that the States should return to the Union, not with secessionists and later-day war men in office, but *Union men*. Such were the instructions given by President Johnson in August last, to all the Provisional Governors. Those instructions are as binding now as they were then, and we want to see them carried out. We are glad to hear of converts to Unionism. We would take these converts by the hand cordially and induct them into the Union church, but it is neither right nor politic to make leaders or preachers of them at once. We are, for example, glad South-Carolina has "sinned," and that he is sorry for it. Now, if Gov. Orr will make good this admission by his acts, he will prove himself a good Union man; but we have no idea he speaks for his State, for two-thirds of his people glory in what they did, and do not admit they have "sinned," but that they were simply overpowered. Such people should not be surprised that the loyal millions of the North and West are in no hurry to admit them to the full privileges of the Union. We must cast off all our secession "sinners," and go back in our "Union rags." You have got to do it, gentlemen, and the sooner the better.

SOMETHING ABOUT DIAMONDS.—The Journal of Mining says: All the diamonds found in Brazil were thrown away, until a Portuguese merchant, who was visiting the gold washings, unexpectedly found a diamond of immense value among the heaps of refuse thrown aside. Keeping his council, he continued his search for a few weeks more, and found enough to bring him four millions of dollars when he got home. Fearing to return he sent his brother back, who soon was equally successful, but being suspected of something wrong by the crown officers, he was arrested and put in prison, upon which he confessed his mission, gave up his booty, and was taken to Portugal, where he was liberated by the King. The whole district was now ordered to be washed for diamonds. It yielded from 14,000 to 20,000 ounces per annum, at least four-fifths of which were of inferior quality. From 50,000 to 60,000 hands were employed. Not many years since some French chemists, in analyzing the accompanying minerals, found what was called black diamonds, now known to be uncrystallized carbon, but so nearly pure that it is valuable as a substitute for other stones, and sells for seventy cents per carat. It was previously thought to be nothing but iron ore or schist. That discovery has led to the washing of the ground over a third time, which proves to be very profitable, as it is said to be abundant. The whole district is now being washed for diamonds. The washing of the mineral resources of Georgia, says fine amethysts have been found in Hall county. Forsyth and Columbia; the topaz in Lumpkin; the corundum in Rabun; the beryl in Burke, and the zirconite in Macon. The corundum is found in the same place, and is of great value. It is associated with the corundum in Rabun county, as also the amethystine asbestos of great strength of fiber and over two feet long. The garnet is abundant, but everywhere of a very poor quality. No emeralds have been found, not a single one. The opals are abundant in the middle counties. The precious opal, however, has only been found in South Carolina, where some valuable specimens were obtained by the late Dr. Andrews, of Charlotte, N. C. The opal of East Tennessee, found in a small emerald in Hawkins county. The ribbon jasper is abundant, and pictorial marble of great beauty.

PROF. W. C. KERR.—This distinguished geologist, who is well known to the State, will deliver a lecture on the subject of Geology, before the Salisbury Lyceum, at the City Hall, on Monday night next. Although Geology will be the subject of the lecture, yet he will not confine himself closely to it, but make it a popular lecture. Judging from the distinguished reputation of Prof. Kerr, we are confident that his lecture will be an exceedingly able and interesting one. The public generally, and the ladies especially, are invited to attend.—*Old North State.*

AN Iowa lady, while breaking some hen eggs, was startled to see a small snake, six inches long and as large as a pipe stem, crawl out of one of the yolks. The young man, who was with her, was startled to see a small snake, six inches long and as large as a pipe stem, crawl out of one of the yolks. The young man, who was with her, was startled to see a small snake, six inches long and as large as a pipe stem, crawl out of one of the yolks.

In London, kid gloves are sold for thirty-five to forty cents, a good broadcloth coat for ten to twelve dollars, and a full suit of travelling clothes for eight dollars.

THE FALL ELECTION.—The first of the fall elections will be held in Vermont and Maine, in the early part of September. Pennsylvania, Ohio and other Western States hold their elections in October, and Maryland, New York, and Massachusetts in November.

Judge Varnum expresses the opinion that from what he has seen and heard in Richmond the rebel citizens of that locality will have become so loyal by next October that they will not allow the United States Court to assemble to try Jefferson Davis.—*New York Tribune.*

DAVID'S PEN never wrote more sweetly than when it dipped in the ink of affliction.—*Mass.*

Who are the Loyalists? A Test.—The Amnesty Oath.

The lexiconographer has defined the loyalist to be "a person who adheres to his sovereign; particularly, one who maintains his allegiance to his prince, and defends his cause in times of revolt or revolution." We have just emerged from a revolution, in which the loyalist was particularly known, in contradistinction to the disloyalist, as one who adhered to the government of the United States, and defended its cause. The military progress of this revolution has been confined to the armies upon which it mainly relied for success, having been surrendered and their organizations dissolved. But the political relations of the States, which revolted against the authority of the government, have not been readjusted upon a basis of equality between the whole people; and it is clear that the difficulties arising from this disturbed condition of public affairs, which daily perplex us, had their immediate origin in that revolt, attempted revolution, or rebellion.

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State. Here a test oath has not been applied, and consequently all the offices, with few exceptions, are in the hands of the disloyal. It is evident, therefore, that the second class of loyal citizens among us are excluded from National offices by Congressional legislation (in which there is no hope of speedy alteration), and by a majority of disloyal citizens from aiding in the control of State affairs, although such control was given to them in conjunction with their more fortunate friends who can subscribe the test oath. So that there remains at present but one class of people below them, and that is the freedmen, who are deprived of all political rights.

It has been confidently assumed that every truly loyal man entertains, and has ever entertained, a love for and preference of the Union to any and all other governments. It is asserted with equal confidence that no disloyal man can honestly subscribe this sentiment. And herein is the test—let each reader now ask himself a question—"have I ever preferred and do I now prefer the government of the United States to any and all other governments, and am I determined from henceforth to maintain my allegiance to said government?" The question is simple, and the loyalist will instantly respond in the affirmative—that of the disloyalist will be filled with dark and damning doubts.

Therefore, it is probable that a test has been administered, like that of the Union, which is potent to detect that devil of treason, which, "squat toadlike at the ear" of traitors, ever whispers "you are loyal, if he is loyal!" Then why should the loyalist hesitate to take this test—let each reader now ask himself a question—"have I ever preferred and do I now prefer the government of the United States to any and all other governments, and am I determined from henceforth to maintain my allegiance to said government?" The question is simple, and the